

PLAYING POLITICS AT STATE SCHOOL

Governor Holds Up Appointment of Trustees, and There Is No Quorum.

EMPLOYEE IS FOR TURNBULL

Watson's Friends Complain, and Great Institution Is Without Trustees.

Politics, it is believed, is at the bottom of the failure of Governor Mann to appoint members of the board of trustees of the State Female Normal School at Farmville, as the result of which there is not now a quorum left for the transaction of business. The board attempted to hold a meeting at the school on Wednesday, at the opening of the session, but failed. Judge Asa D. Watkins, secretary and treasurer of the institution, gave it as his opinion that no quorum was present.

Examination of the law indicates that this contention is correct. The statute makes no provision that members of the board shall serve until their successors are appointed and qualified, but seems to take it for granted that no Governor would fail to make the appointments within the time prescribed by law. It sets forth that within six months of the expiration of the term of office of the trustees, the Governor shall appoint their successors, subject to ratification by the State Senate at the next session of the General Assembly.

As to practical results, it is stated that if the appointments are made at an early day, there will be no serious harm, since the school can run along for a time without any action by the board.

Active in Politics. The whole trouble, it seems, arose over the fact that H. M. Cox, steward of the school, who is a Republican, is active in his support of Representative Robert Turnbull for re-election to Congress. At least, complaints of

his activity in politics have been made by friends of Judge Walter A. Watson, who is opposing Mr. Turnbull. Inasmuch as the institution is located in the county of Prince Edward, in the western part of the district, which is Judge Watson's stronghold, his adherents have made it so hot that it is believed that school has been or will be injured in its career of usefulness to the State. Factional differences threaten to cause trouble.

The appointment of the trustees to succeed those whose terms expired July 1, have been held up by Governor Mann. It is understood to have been held up for this reason: Mr. Cox is alleged to have been a member of the board for political reasons, including Congressman Turnbull, who is president of the board, but withheld action when he learned that Mr. Cox was actively for the present, representative and upon complaint made by friends of Judge Watson.

Lines Are Drawn. As a result, charges and counter-charges are being made. Mr. Turnbull's friends say that the Governor is playing politics in behalf of his personal friend and fellow countryman, Judge Watson, and is holding up the appointment of the board for political reasons. Adherents of Judge Watson, on the other hand, are bitter toward the school because of the activity of Mr. Cox.

The machine and anti-machine fight also enters at this juncture. Mr. Turnbull is understood to have cast his vote last year for Congressman Jones and Glass, against Senators Martin and Swanson, although he took no active part in the campaign, and in an interview with The Times-Dispatch, after the primary, he said his own sons did not know how he had voted. On the other hand, Judge Watson has been supposed to have the support of the machine in Virginia politics. A week or so ago, in a card to the public, he denied that any such course had anything to do with his candidacy, and gave his word of honor and his reputation as a man in support of his assertion.

May Delay Action. It is predicted by Mr. Turnbull's friends that Governor Mann will not make the appointment until after the Fourth District Primary of September 21. He is now in the North, where he has been attending the Atlantic Deep-sea Waterways Convention, and is not expected to return until tomorrow night.

The members of the board whose terms expired July 1 are Robert Turnbull, Lawrenceville, Rev. James Nelson, D. D., Richmond, C. Harding Walker, Heathsville, J. S. Ware, Berryville, J. J. Owen, Green Bay, J. B. Watkins, Middleburg. These the Gov-

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erner had intended to reappoint, save Mr. Owen, who will retire at his own request.

Those now members of the board are: George T. Bridgforth, Kenbridge; J. M. Crute, Farmville; M. P. Parlier, Parisburg; Tucker Watkins, South Boston; M. D. Hall, Burke; J. J. Jordan, Pulaski; J. B. Batts, Roanoke; J. D. Eggleston, Jr., (ex officio).

The president of the school is J. L. Jarman, under whose management it trains teachers at what is said to be less cost than any other institution of similar grade in the United States.

INTEREST IN RACE FOR SENATORSHIP

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)

Wilmington, N. C., September 6.—Wilmington, in common with other North Carolina places, is paying more attention to the race for United States Senator in North Carolina than in the election of Woodrow Wilson. However, this is probably due to the fact that it is conceded that Wilson will sweep the State. But the senatorial question is a hot one in this city, and bids fair to grow to fever heat with the approaching election. It is probably much bitterness injected into the Governor's Kitchen and Chief Justice Walter Clark, two of the candidates, have been heard here, and have developed a much larger following than had been credited to either. Whether Senator Simmons will speak or not is problematical, though it is said that speeches will be made here in his behalf. The Senator has a strong following in this city, and expects to get a majority, although the opposition claims to be making heavy inroads. The opinion of William Jennings Bryan that Senator Simmons is not a progressive has undoubtedly influenced a number of voters, who are strong supporters of the Nebraskan.

The Republicans will hardly place a ticket in the field in this county this year, especially as the party is divided among the leaders having deserted to join the Bull Moose party. Fredell Meares, of this city, the Republican nominee for Congress in this district two years ago, has deserted the ranks, and is running as an elector-at-large on the Roosevelt ticket. The Bull Moose party will not poll a very strong vote here apparently, and will hardly place a county ticket in the field, as a convention of the Progressives of this county called for election night failed to bring out over ten members.

Now that the regular Republican platform has a local option plank in it, and the Hon. Tom Settle, who publicly and on the stump opposed prohibition in the State election, is the nominee of the party for Governor, it is said he will get many votes in Wilmington, which voted "wet" in the election, and where there has been a spirit of discontent for a long time over the prohibition law. There is speculation as to whether the Republicans will put out a legislative ticket in this county, as it is realized that without a Legislature in accord with the local option plank, the Republican party could accomplish nothing, even though it elected a Governor. But this county will go Democratic, however the political cat may jump.

Wilmington, N. C., September 6.—Showing what publicity will do, no matter how much such may be desired as "hurting the town," to-day stands Wilmington's health record. Last year, particularly during the summer months, Wilmington had many cases of typhoid fever, the number of cases recorded from July 1 to December 1 of that year being 319 cases, with many deaths. A campaign of reforms placed in effect, injurious to the city, while the latter almost worked up a recall against the Council of the city, which operates under a commission form of government. But the publicity, as it was referred to and the Councilmen stood by their guns, and to-day the rich fruits of such are being shown. There have been forty-four cases of typhoid fever recorded during the past summer months, with few deaths.

Wilmington's health department is undoubtedly an expensive one. Yet it has been proven that such expense was necessary and has really been a saving to the individuals in money, aside from protecting health.

TAFT IS PRAISED

Postmasters Adopt Resolutions Laud-ing President.

Atlantic City, N. J., September 6.—At the final session of their fifteenth annual convention here to-day, postmasters of the first-class offices adopted resolutions praising President Taft and commending Postmaster-General Hitchcock "for his adherence to the policy to put the postal service on a paying basis."

Those officers were elected: President, Isador Abel, Erie, Pa.; first vice-president, R. E. Webb, Louisville, Ky.; second vice-president, George W. Bean, Tampa, Fla.; third vice-president, Mayfield, Boston; fourth vice-president, N. A. Merritt, Washington; fifth vice-president, John A. Deargum, McKeesport, Pa.

WIDE TIRE LAW IS TESTED IN COURTS

Spotsylvania Man Fined for Violation Secures Appeal in Supreme Tribunal.

STATE BONDS ARE PURCHASED

Sinking Fund Used to Retire Increasing Amount of Public Debt.

Through the granting of a writ of error yesterday in the Supreme Court, the validity of wide tire laws will be tested in the tribunal of last resort. The case is that of Benjamin Polglaise vs. the Commonwealth, on an appeal from the judgment of the Circuit Court of Spotsylvania County.

It seems the Board of Supervisors submitted to the people of the county, under an act of the Legislature, the proposition of a law requiring wide tires to be used on the roads, in order, of course, to keep the highways in better condition. The proposition was carried at the polls.

Then the board proceeded to make its regulations, requiring tires of certain widths for certain sized loads. Polglaise was charged with violating this law in hauling more than 600 feet of lumber in a vehicle with narrow tires. He was convicted and fined \$15. He has appealed, and the case goes on the docket for a hearing at the November term.

It is evident that the defendant in this case objected to being fined, or else that others are joining with him to make a test case, since the expense of appeal will be many times the \$15 assessed for the offense.

In the petition, Polglaise claims that the supervisors had no right to make specific regulations for the width of tires, but should have submitted its exact program to the people, for a general vote.

PAYING STATE DEBT

Nearly \$2,500,000 Bonds Bought and Retired Since 1908.

Under the State's policy of disposing of the public debt by the sinking fund method, bonds are being purchased and retired with increasing rapidity. Figures compiled by Second Auditor Rosewell Page show that from February 1, 1910, up to the close of business yesterday—September 6, 1912—the Board of Sinking Fund Commissioners has bought and retired bonds to the value of \$1,712,337.47. The total for Governor Mann's administration bids fair to be three-quarters of a million. Inasmuch as the State continues to draw interest on the bonds purchased and retired, the sinking fund grows from year to year. The appropriation for this purpose, in accordance with the provisions of the settlement, is nearly \$1,200,000 a year, and will continue at this figure until 1925.

Under the administration of Governor Tyler, the state bought bonds to the value of \$1,111,300. For the four years from January 1, 1902, to February 1, 1905, during the administration of Governor Montague, the purchases were \$204,000, while during the term of Governor Swann they were \$584,490. It is recalled that Governor Tyler found a large balance in the treasury when he came in, while Governor Montague had none to work with.

Tax Hearings Concluded.

The annual tax hearings before the State Corporation Commission were concluded yesterday. The only appeals were of John P. Stith, of the Western Union Telegraph Company, and of Mr. Marable, of the Clyde Steamship Company. Neither had any complaint nor request, but merely showed up to answer questions. The Southern Bell Telephone Company and the Southern Express Company did not appear.

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Look for the spear The flavor lasts

THINK NEGRO IS CHICKEN THIEF

Police Believe They Can Connect Prisoner With Numerous Robberies.

The police believe that in the arrest of a negro, now held as a suspicious character, a chicken thief who has been annoying residents in the northern portion of the city has been captured.

The prisoner is Lee Robinson, who was caught by Bicycle Policemen, Gering Thursday night after several blocks' chase through North Eighth Street in Police Court yesterday morning. The case was continued until next Friday in order to give Gering an opportunity to get evidence against him. When captured Robinson had two chickens with him, which he said he had bought, but was unable to tell from whom.

Investigation Gering found that Mrs. J. L. Richardson, of 305 East Leigh Street, had been robbed of two fowls and chickens, and that they are the ones Robinson had.

Gering saw Robinson about midnight Thursday in Eighth Street. He observed the chickens, and when he went to the man to ask what he was doing with them he ran. The officer was upon his wheel and gave chase, overtaking Robinson at Leigh Street.

It is believed that Robinson can be connected with several chicken thefts which have lately been reported to the police.

JUDGE YARRELL HAS PASSED AWAY

Counsel for Mrs. Florence Maybrick Dies at Virginia Hospital.

Judge Leonidas D. Yarrell, a leading figure in two continents at the time he was counsel for Mrs. Florence Elizabeth Maybrick and Baroness Caroline von Roques, and twice member of the General Assembly, died at the Virginia Hospital yesterday afternoon. His death followed a few hours after he was admitted to the hospital, and the cause of his fatal illness is little known here.

The body will be taken to Embury, Va., for burial to-morrow afternoon at 2:30 o'clock in the family burial plot. His nearest relative is a sister—Mrs. W. T. McDonald, of Greenville County.

Judge Yarrell was a graduate in law of the University of Virginia. As a practicing lawyer he became judge of the old County Court of Greenville, serving one term. In 1890 he was elected to the Senate of Virginia, serving four years. After twenty years he came back to the Legislature—this time to the House of Delegates, where he served in 1910. He was defeated last year for re-election from Greenville and Sussex Counties.

For years Judge Yarrell was American attorney for Mrs. Maybrick and

DEATHS

WILLIAMS—Died, at the residence of her son-in-law, H. G. Mason, 1817 Fairmount Avenue, September 6, 1912, at 1:15 o'clock, MRS. ELIZABETH C. WILLIAMS, widow of E. S. Williams and daughter of the late William Greener. She is survived by two sons, Mrs. H. G. Mason and Mrs. J. A. Bailey, and three sisters, Mrs. Rose W. Johnston and Misses Fannie and Mollie Greener. Funeral from the residence, 511 N. DAY AFTERNOON at 4 o'clock. Baltimore papers please copy.

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her people, going through with some stirring scenes in settling her property rights. As a matter of fact, these are still unsettled, and he has been recently engaged in handling matters connected with the Maybrick grant in coal lands in Dickenson County, in this State. In his capacity as attorney for Baroness von Roques, he had many clashes with foreign lawyers. Prospering in his profession, Judge Yarrell accumulated much property. He was unmarried.

OBITUARY

Funeral of Mr. Turpin.

The funeral of John O. Turpin, who died at the Retreat for the Sick Thursday night, after a lingering illness, will take place this morning at 8:30 o'clock from 1015 West Main Street. The services will be conducted by Dr. A. Baskin. The body will be taken to Lynchburg, his former home, where it will be interred beside that of his wife, who died two years ago.

He leaves one sister, Mrs. L. C. Burke, of King William County, and two brothers—William H. Turpin, of this city, and J. Ryland Turpin, of King and Queen County.

William H. Ford, Jr. (Special to The Times-Dispatch.)—Lynchburg, Va., September 6.—William H. Ford, Jr., who had been ill for a long time, died this morning at 8:15 o'clock at his home, death being due to a complication of troubles. He was twenty-five years of age, and is survived by his wife, whom he married about a year ago and his mother.

Thomas Blackwell. (Special to The Times-Dispatch.)—Heathsville, Va., September 6.—Thomas Blackwell, a prominent citizen of lower Fairfield, this county, died at his home of paralysis this morning. He was a farmer and an old Confederate soldier. He leaves a wife, several grown children and a large number of relatives and friends. Interment in the cemetery of the home place.

Henry L. Jones. (Special to The Times-Dispatch.)—Buckingham, Va., September 6.—News has reached here of the death in St. Louis, Mo., of Dr. Henry L. Jones, formerly of this county. Rev. Plummer F. Jones, of Arvonia, and H. M. Jones, of Shepards, are brothers of H. L. Jones.